

Samuel Cooper House
1104 North 22nd Street
Camden, Camden County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Samuel Cooper House
1104 North 22nd Street
Camden, Camden County, New Jersey

Owner: West part - Mulford J. Gibbs
East part - William A. Beech

Date of Erection: 1790

Architect:

Builder: Samuel Cooper

Present Condition: Very good

Number of Stories: Three

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - brick;
Flemish bond on west
elevation

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers

Historical Data:

By a resurvey which was dated March 1, 1734-5 O. S., the land upon which this house was built became the property of Jacob Spicer. Spicer in a will in 1762 left the property to his son Jacob, Jr. From him Samuel Cooper purchased the tract on April 16, 1784 and built this house in 1790. The north gable bears the marking "S. P. C. 1790", the initials standing for Samuel and Prudence Cooper.

Samuel and his brother Joseph suffered greatly during the Revolution. Joseph was the unwilling host of Colonel Abercrombie (NJ-304) and Samuel had an English and Several Scotch and Hessian regiments quartered in their ferry house. During that time the family was allowed the kitchen and one upstairs room for their living quarters. The old ferry house which had been built in 1770 was torn down in 1882. Samuel was imprisoned by the colonial government because as a Friend he refused to bear arms. In 1790 he turned over the ferry to his son, William, and retired to Pavonia where he built this house.

We know that in 1778 prize ships and cargoes were brought up the Delaware and sold at the ferry house. In the New Jersey Gazette for August 12 and 19, 1778 were the following advertisements:

"To be sold by virtue of an order from the Judge of the Admiralty of the State of New Jersey, on Thursday, the 20th inst. at ten o'clock in the morning by public vendue, at Samuel Cooper's ferry opposite Philadelphia part of the cargo of the "prize sloop Lucy.
John Stokes, Marsh."

Aug. 7, 1778

"TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC
VENDUE

At cooper's Ferry, New Jersey, opposite Philadelphia, on Saturday, the 22nd, of August, at 12 o'clock.

PRIZE SLOOPS

HEUSEY and the DUCK

An inventory of which may be seen at the Coffee - house in Philadelphia. At the same time and place will be sold, two 4 - pounders, two 2 - pounders and two 1 - pounders, by

John Stokes, Marshal"

Samuel Cooper died in April, 1812 and in the Tenth Volume of the Friends Miscellany the following is quoted from the papers of John Hunt:

"Heard of the death of Samuel Cooper, aged about seventy, and old school - mate. He owned the ferry opposite Philadelphia: and altho' he had great possessions, and was counted very rich, yet he retired from business, obtained a right amongst Friends, became a much improved man, and was very useful in society, and also open - hearted and kind, and entertaining friends and their horses. So that he will be very much missed in his neighborhood, and in society."

The land passed to his son, Benjamin, and later in 1842 to Benjamin's son, William B. Cooper.

In 1888 the property was sold out of the Cooper family to Edward Kohn. Kohn sold it that same year to the Camden Real Estate Company, who sold it in 1905 to the Home Builders Company. The Home Builders changed the property into a double house and sold it to the present owners.

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Title searched by G. F. Benjamin

Material collected by Elizabeth Moffett,
Camden Field Historian

Elizabeth Moffett
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

Rec. Jan. 25 '37 T.T.W.